

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

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TAGS: ILO, PLAB
SUBJ: INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE: DIRECTOR GENERAL'S
LETTER TO ILC PRESIDENT ON ISRAELI ISSUE

REF: GENEVA 4594

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF LETTER DG SENT TO ILC CONFERENCE
PRESIDENT AMEDUME ON JUNE 9 (SEE REFTTEL), LETTER IS DATED
JUNE 8.

2. BEGIN TEXT.

DEAR MR. PRESIDENT,

AS IN PAST YEARS, PART II OF MY REPORT TO THE CONFERENCE
IS DEVOTED TO THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ILO DURING THE PRECEDING
YEAR.

IN ACCORDANCE WITH DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE CONFERENCE AND
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THE GOVERNING BODY IN 1962, THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL'S REPORT TO
THE CONFERENCE ALSO INCLUDED A REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION OF
RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED BY THE CONFERENCE OVER THE PREVIOUS FIVE
YEARS. THE SECOND CHAPTER OF PART II OF MY REPORT PROVIDES
THIS INFORMATION.

TO FACILITATE THE WORK OF THE CONFERENCE, I BELIEVE IT

WOULD BE USEFUL FOR ME TO PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING CLARIFICATIONS
COMPLEMENTARY TO MY REPORT:

FIRST, I CONFIRM THAT I WILL AGAIN SUBMIT, BOTH IN 1978
AND IN 1979, IN ACCORDANCE WITH MY OBLIGATION, A REPORT ON
THE STEPS TAKEN TO GIVE EFFECT TO ALL RESOLUTIONS ADOPTED IN
THE PRECEDING FIVE YEARS. SUCH A REPORT WILL COVER THE
RESOLUTION ADOPTED IN 1974 CONCERNING "THE POLICY OF
DISCRIMINATION, RACISM AND VIOLATION OF TRADE UNION FREEDOMS
AND RIGHTS PRACTISED BY THE ISRAELI AUTHORITIES IN PALESTINE
AND IN THE OTHER OCCUPIED ARAB TERRITORIES".

SECOND, PART II OF MY REPORT THIS YEAR REFERS TO MY
RECOMMENDATION THAT THE GOVERNING BODY ACKNOWLEDGE THE
INABILITY OF THE IDIRECTOR-GENERAL TO PROCEED FURTHER IN THE
MATTER WITHOUT RECOURSE TO EXISTING ILO PROCEDURES. THE
GOVERNING BODY, IN MARCH 1977, ENDORSED THIS RECOMMENDATION,
AND DECIDED THAT THE INFORMATION SUBMITTED BY THE DIRECTOR-
GENERAL SHOULD COMPLETE HIS REPORT TO THE GOVERNING BODY.

THIRD, WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF ILO PROCEDURES CONCERNING
THE APPLICATION OF INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS ON MATTERS
PERTAINING TO WORK AND FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION, THE CONFERENCE
NOW HAS BEFORE IT, THROUGH ITS COMMITTEE ON THE APPLICATION OF
CONVENTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS, THE REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE
OF EXPERTS (REPORT III, PART 4(A)). THIS REPORT CONTAINS ON
PAGE 230 OF THE ENGLISH TEXT, COMMENTS ON THE APPLICATION BY
THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL OF CONVENTION III ON DISCRIMINATION,
WHICH ISRAEL HAS RATIFIED.

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THE COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS HAS REQUESTED THE GOVERNMENT OF
ISRAEL TO FURNISH SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION COVERING A WHOLE
RANGE OF QUESTION RELATING TO CONDITIONS OF WORK. THESE
QUESTIONS WERE ALSO RAISED IN PARAGRAPH 13 OF MY REPORT TO
THE GOVERNING BODY IN MARCH 1976 ON THE CONDITION OF WORKERS
IN THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES. THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL HAS
NOW SENT A COMMUNICATION WHICH I WILL BRING TO THE ATTENTION
OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE APPLICATION OF CONVENTIONS AND
RECOMMENDATIONS.

FOURTH, WITHOUT WISHING IN ANY WAY TO PREJUDGE CONSIDERATION
BY THE COMMITTEE ON THE APPLICATION OF CONVENTIONS AND
RECOMMENDATION, I WILL, AS IS THE DUTY OF THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL,
SCRUPULOUSLY ASSIST IN IMPLEMENTING ANY CONCLUSIONS WHICH THE
CONFERENCE MIGHT ARRIVE AT RELATIVE TO THIS SUBJECT. I SHALL
UTILISE FOR THIS PURPOSE ALL AVAILABLE ILO METHODS AND PROCEDURES,
INCLUDING VISITS BY THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL, TO HELP ENSURE THAT THE
CONDITION OF THE WORKERS CONCERNED - WHICH IS OUR PRIMARY CONCERN -

IS IN KEEPING WITH THE PRINCIPLES AND OBJECTIVES OF THE ILO.

I WOULD BE GRATEFUL IF YOU COULD KINDLY BRING THE CONTENTS
OF THE LETTER TO THE ATTENTION OF THE CONFERENCE. END TEXT
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